

PUERTO RICO SEA GRANT PROGRAM 2010 NSGO REVIEW

Nikola Garber



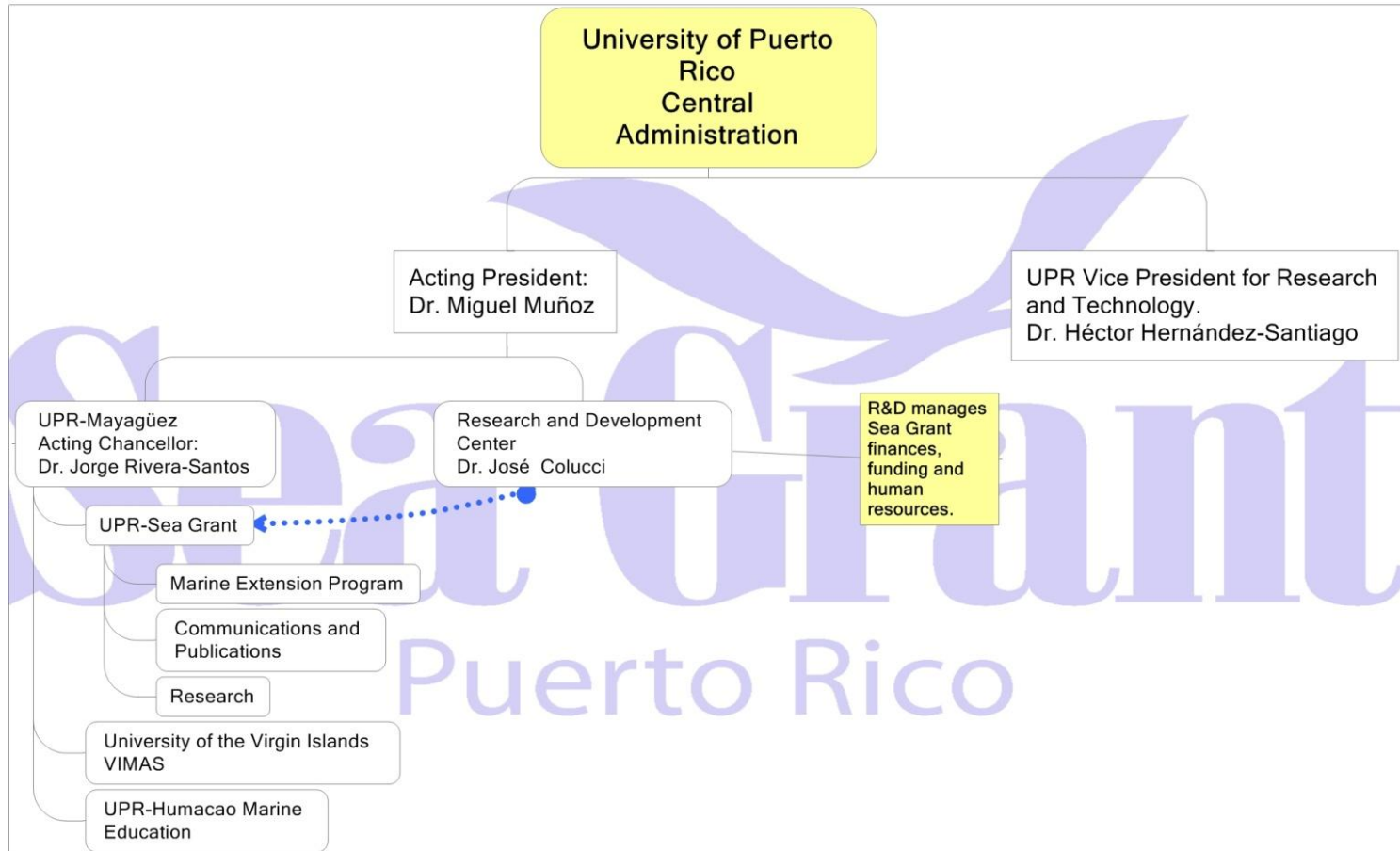
□ Management Team

- ▣ Director, Ruperto Chaparro (1.0 FTE)
- ▣ Associate Director and director Marine Outreach Program, Manuel Valdes (1.0 FTE)
- ▣ Communication Specialist, Cristina Olán (1.0 FTE)
- ▣ Research Coordinator, Kurt Grove (1.0 FTE)
- ▣ Office Administrator (Fiscal Officer), Yulissa Garcia (1.0 FTE)

Program Organizational Chart

PR SG

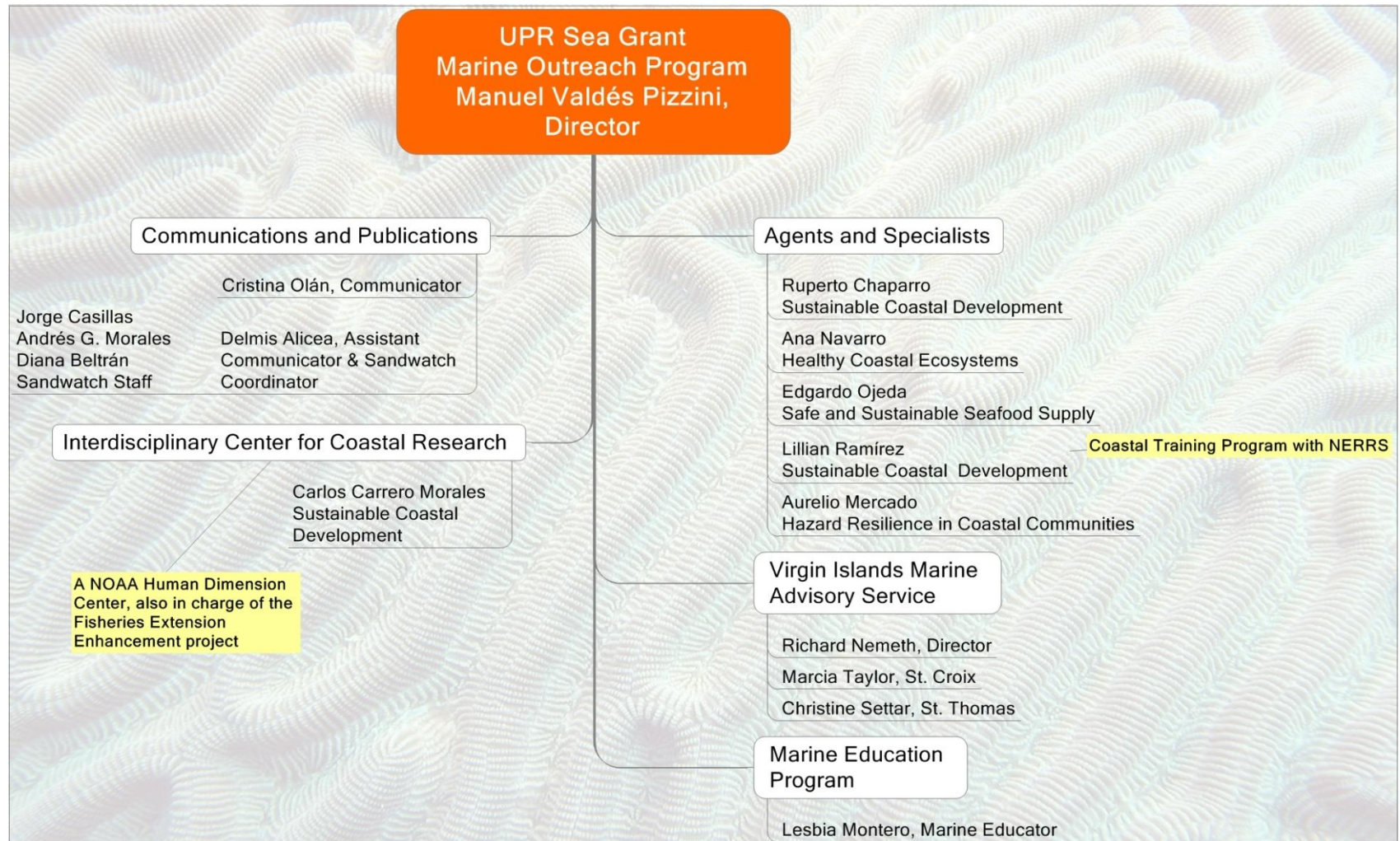
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Extension Program

PR SG

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Program Management – Advisory Board PR SG

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□ Advisory Board –

- The last major meeting was in 2008 to create the strategic plan.
- Since then, leadership has met with the Board members individually (one to two at a time) and by electronic messages due to conflicts in schedules.
- Next steps: Revitalizing board, with the membership requirement of meeting at least twice a year as a group.

Program Management – Advisory Board (cont.)

PR SG

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□ Advisory Board membership –

- Dr. Emma Fernández Repollet, Vice'President of Academic Affairs and Research, UPR Central Administration
- Mr. Miguel Rolón, Executive Director, Caribbean Fishery Management Council
- Dr. Laverne Ragster, President, University of the Virgin Islands
- Dr. Craig Lilyestrom, Marine Resources Division, Department of Natural and Environmental Resources
- Mr. Musín Suárez, Commercial Fishermen-Entrepreneur
- Dr. Juan Gerardo González, Associate Director Resource Center for Science and Engineering
- Dr. Pedro Díaz, Chief Geologist, USGS
- Mr. Dan Shelley, Owner Marina Puerto del Rey
- Dr. José Molinelli Freytes, Director of the Program of Environmental Sciences UPR
- Dr. Ariel Lugo, Director International Institute for Tropical Forestry
- Mrs. Clarissa Jiménez, Executive Director and CEO, Puerto Rico Hotel and Tourism Association
- Dr. Barbara Kojis, Director, Division of Fish and Wildlife USVI
- Prof. Luis Jiménez, Director, Science Program of the Department of Education
- Dr. Michelle Scharer, UPR Marine Science Department

Institutional Setting

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- Administratively, Sea Grant responds to the Research & Development Center; UPR-Mayagüez's chancellor, Dr. Jorge Rivera Santos; the president of the UPR system, Dr. Miguel A. Muñoz; and the vice president for Research and Technology, Dr. Hector Santiago.
- The University of the Virgin Islands, and its Center for Marine and Environmental Studies, is the key institutional partner housing the Virgin Islands Marine Advisory Service (VIMAS).

State Sea Grant Program Plan –

Estimated 4-yr Budget Allocation per focus area

PR SG

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National Focus Area	Focus Area from Program Strategic Plan	Estimated Level of Effort of Federal, Match and Leveraged (%)	Estimated Level of Effort of Federal and Match (\$)	Estimated Level of Effort of Leveraged (\$)
Safe & Sustainable Seafood Supply		15%	1,155,317	173,605
Sustainable Coastal Development		50%	3,851,058	578,683
Healthy Coastal Ecosystems		25%	1,925,529	289,342
Hazard Resiliency in Coastal Communities		10%	770,212	115,737
Total		100%	7,702,116	1,157,366

Performance Measure/Outcome

Highlights

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- *Coastal citizens, NGOs, government agencies, trade organizations, and industries - recognize the complex inter-relationships between social, economic and environmental values in coastal areas and work together to balance multiple uses and optimize environmental sustainability.*

Major Partners

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- Strong working relationship with:
 - The Department of Natural and Environmental Resources
 - Jobos Bay's Coastal Training Program
 - NOAA: National Marine Fisheries Services & National Ocean Service
 - Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's Coastal Zone Management Program
 - Puerto Rico Conservation Trust
 - WIPR-TV a PBS affiliate
 - Department of Marine Sciences
 - Puerto Rico Tourism Company
 - Surfrider Foundation
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture
 - Blue Flag Beach Program
 - United States Lifesaving Association
 - IOOS Caribbean Regional Association
 - National Weather Service
 - SECART NOAA
 - UNESCO
 - NOAA Coastal Services Center
 - USDA Caribbean Office of Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Coralations Culebra NGO
 - Interdisciplinary Center for Coastal Studies (CIEL)
 - Caribbean Fisheries Management Council NOAA
 - Puerto Rico Seismic Network
 - Applied Social Science Research Center (CISA)
 - EPA (in Coastal Community Development and the Coastal Training Program)

2008/2009 Network Activities ^{PR SG}

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- Lillian Ramírez actively participates in the Coastal Community Development Network
- Aurelio Mercado is an active participant in the Climate Change network.

2010 RFP Process

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- Priorities (based on strategic plan): ecosystems and ecology, coastal hazards, climate change, land use impacts, coastal processes, socioeconomic processes of resource use and coastal communities, mariculture
- Reviewers: recognized in field and knowledgeable about the socio-historical and environmental context of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; from universities and government agencies in the United States
- 29 pre-proposals submitted
- 6 of 16 full proposals selected
- Note: Conducted Technical Review Panel via conference call. Innovative way to reduce costs while keeping the quality of the process

2008/2009 Program Metrics – Awards and Honors

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- Collaboration with the TV environmental program *GEOAMBIENTE* has resulted in 6 EMMY's, the last 2 covering climate change programs based on UPRSGCP's Climate Change Round Table.
- UPRSGCP presence in television has been amplified through its dissemination in more than 11 states by the broadcasting company WAPA America.
- Only nature and environment weekly show produced in Puerto Rico where scientists, government, communities and students discuss environmental issues and propose solutions to environmental problems.

2008/2009 Highlights of Metrics^{PR SG}

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- 70 individuals involved in SG research, accounting for 10 FTEs (7.33 funded by SG)
- 13 MS/MA Graduate Students and 13 undergrad students

2008/2009 Program Impacts

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- Through the Fisheries Extension Enhancement Grant, Puerto Sea Grant is publishing and distributing the quarterly bulletin *The Vertical Line (Fuete & Verguilla*, in Spanish) shared with more than 800 fishers, resource managers and scientists to share information on the predicament of the local fisheries.
- Supported development of management plans (unique for Puerto Rico) for marine reserves through community participation in the stewardship of these marine ecosystems.

2008/2009 Program Impacts

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- Due to capacity building efforts, safer seafood products are being imported and marketed.
- In collaboration with EPA's Jobos Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (JBNERR) Coastal Training Program, capacity building for coastal resources managers, decision-makers, community leaders and NGO's resulted in:
 - ▣ *Development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for Construction Sites*
 - ▣ *Strategies for Collaborative Agreements between local communities and JBNERR*
 - ▣ *Permit Process for Small Municipal Pluvial Systems: MS-*
- The publication of the book "The First Book of the Maritime Zone" in collaboration with the US Forest Service, Department of Agriculture has resulted in its adoption by several universities as the text book for courses in engineering and environmental sciences.

2008/2009 Research Accomplishments

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- Through the use of regional moment tensor techniques, a 7 minute reduction in the tsunami warning determinations in the Caribbean was possible.
- Detected Arsenic and Mercury exceeding human health protection limits in muscle tissue of fish caught in Jobos Bay.

Best Management Practices

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- ❑ Collaboration with NOAA Fisheries in planning, facilitating, etc. fisheries workshops, meetings, discussions.
- ❑ With the collaboration of the United States Lifesaving Association, PR SG has raised awareness of the dangers of rip currents through publications, newspaper articles, TV presentations, and meetings with resource managers.